



City of Eau Claire
SUSTAINABILITY
Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda
January 21, 2020

MISSION:

"To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community."

DATE: January 21, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: North Conference Room, City Hall

CHAIR: Brian Larson

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Brian Graff, David Hon, Brian Larson, Crispin Pierce (remote access), Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Steve Terwilliger, Tyrel Zich

Also in attendance: City Council member Jeremy Gragert; Scott Allen, Community Development Director, Patrick Ritchie, City Sustainability Intern; Eric Crawford, Shane Felske and Timur Shevket, RWE Renewables Americas; Jen Monroe, JONAH; Erin Trowbridge, FourPeas Consulting; and members of the public, Gary Pesicka and Eleanor Wolf

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approve December 17, 2019 Meetings Minutes

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the December 17, 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Graff and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: RWE Wind Farm Proposal Presentation

The RWE Renewables team introduced themselves. Mr. Crawford presented the proposed wind farm project in southeastern Eau Claire County and answered questions from the committee.

The project would be a \$200 million investment into the local economy. There would be 40 to 70 turbines to power approximately 60,000 homes. Power purchase agreements are being sought. About 150 construction jobs are expected and they will maintain their own service employees over the 30-year useful life. RWE is seeking land easements from property owners currently. They usually need less than a third of an acre to locate a turbine and associated development. Construction could begin in 2023 if approvals occur.

A public house is slated for February 22nd at the Florian Gardens so the community can ask questions and learn more. Details will be passed along. A project website called <https://eauclairewind.com/> has also been developed.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Updated Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Discussion

Mr. Noel presented the REAP plan, REAP Executive Summary, Net Zero Energy Building Guide and Electric Vehicle Roadmap. The commissioners were supportive of the plans and excited to move into the approval stage.

Ms. Rykal stated a tiny URL should be made for the executive summary so people don't have to type in a long internet address.

Mr. Noel will collect any remaining feedback in finalizing the plans. SAC will have their public hearing on the plans at their next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5: REAP Campaign Discussion

Mr. Noel highlighted the program grant application that was made on January 19th to the Eau Claire Community Foundation.

Ms. Rykal emphasized the need to have strong community education to help people better understand the issue and what can be done. Developing a communicating plan would be a good next step.

Erin Trowbridge with FourPeas Consulting stated she was interested in helping the committee.

Mr. Schumacher stated there could be storytelling around climate change. He will look into the True North event for October.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Work Plan 2020 Development

Mr. Noel went over the draft work plan. SAC's additional feedback was positive. He will formalize the work plan for the February 18th meeting and set up the public hearing.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Brief Updates

The committee was interested in having the City provide VW comments on electric vehicles charging infrastructure.

Mr. Terwilliger mentioned there will be a presentation at the Home and Garden Show about preventing ice dams.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Chair Larson adjourned the committee at 5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brian Graff, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
February 18, 2020	3:30 p.m.	City Hall, North Conf. Rm.